improve or protect the general character and design of the lands and improvements being zone or rezoned, or of the surrounding or adjacent lands and improvements, and may, upon the zoning or rezoning of any land or lands, retain or reserve the power and authority to approve or disapprove the design of buildings, construction, landscaping or other improvements, alterations, and changes made or to be made on the subject land or lands to assure conformity with the intent and purpose of this article and of the county zoning ordinance.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1967.

Approved April 21, 1967.

CHAPTER 536

(Senate Bill 533)

AN ACT to add new Sections 11A-1 through 11A-8, inclusive, to the Code of Public Local Laws of Frederick County (1959 Edition, being Article 11 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland), title "Frederick County," to follow immediately after Section 11-1 thereof, and to be under the new subtitle "Public Defender," to create the Office of Public Defender for Frederick County and to establish duties, qualifications, method of appointment, salary, and responsibilities of the office and to provide defense or representation for indigent persons in certain criminal litigations.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That new Sections 11A-1 through 11A-8, inclusive, be and they are hereby added to the Code of Public Local Laws of Frederick County (1959 Edition, being Article 11 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland), title "Frederick County," to follow immediately after Section 11-1 thereof, and to be under the new subtitle "Public Defender," and all to read as follows:

Public Defender

11A-1.

The Office of Public Defender is hereby established in Frederick County. The public defender shall be appointed by the judges of the Circuit Court for Frederick County and shall serve at their will.

11A-2.

To be eligible for appointment to the office of Public Defender, a person shall have been admitted to practice law before the Court of Appeals of Maryland for at least one year prior to his appointment and shall have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the appointing authority that he possesses the necessary skills and legal qualifications to discharge the responsibilities of the Office of Public Defender properly, adequately, and vigorously in defending indigents charged with crimes.